has submitted a memorandum to him seeking quota reservation for the production of GSM, SIM cards for BSNL; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) ITI, Palghat is not a loss incurring unit. Rather, it has been a profit earning unit. The details of profit for the last three years are indicated below :—

Year	Profit (Rs. in crores)
2002-2003	38.21 (Provl.)
2001-2002	57.69
2000-2001	15.28

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. ITI would get the reservation quota as per the existing policy.

Dropping of global long distance plan by BSNL and MTNL

3040. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL, MTNL and two other PSUs have dropped global long distance plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are against the entry of BSNL, MTNL and two other PSUs in ILD venture; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) State-owned telecommunication services providers namely BSNL and MTNL have not dropped global long distance plans. BSNL has already been granted the licence. Indian Telephone Industry (ITI Ltd.) had planned International Long Distance operations based on

strategic alliance with BSNL and another operator having dedicated lines to Middle East and USA. However, the project was shelved as the business was not found feasible in the new market conditions. Telecommunication Consultants India Limited (TCIL), another Telecom PSU, does not have plans to enter ILD business.

Mobile services in Gujarat

3041. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRIMATI N.P. DUHGA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in Gujarat where mobile service is available as on date;

(b) the number of districts in the State where this service has not yet been started; and

(c) by when this service is likely to be provided in the Taluka Bariya District Dahod of the State during the year 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Sir, the following companies are licensed to provide and have commissioned Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) in Gujarat Telecom Circle Service Area :—

1. M/s Fascel Ltd.
2. M/s IDEA Cellular Ltd.
3. M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.
4. M/s Bharti Cellular Ltd.

As intimated by these companies, apart from other cities and towns, CMTS is being provided in all the District Headquarters of Gujarat by one or more of the above mentioned operators.

(c) As per the terms and conditions of the Licence for CMTS, in the Telecom Circle Service Areas, an operator is required to cover 10% of the District Headquarters within one year and 50% of the District Headquarters within three years. The Licensee is also permitted to cover